



Captain Joseph S. Dufresne United States Coast Guard



Captain Dufresne is currently assigned as the Sector Commander / Captain of the Port / Federal On Scene Commander of Coast Guard Sector Buffalo, New York. He is responsible for the conduct of all Coast Guard missions by 15 subordinate units with an assigned area of responsibility stretching from the St. Lawrence Seaway, westward through Lakes Ontario and Erie to Lorain, OH, including Niagara Falls and portions of the Finger Lakes region and Erie Barge Canal.

Captain Dufresne's previous assignment was as Deputy Sector Commander of Coast Guard Sector North Carolina, Wilmington, NC, with responsibility for Coast Guard operations within and seaward of the state of North Carolina. He first served as a student engineer in Coast Guard Cutter VIGILANT, homeported in Cape Canaveral, FL. His other operational assignments include tours at Sector Baltimore, MD, conducting small passenger vessel inspections, Port State Control and waterways management; and as the Supervisor at Marine Safety Detachment Sturgeon Bay, WI, performing inspections for the Great Lakes bulk carrier fleet and new construction oversight for seagoing tank barges. His staff assignments in Washington, DC, include as a staff naval architect at the Coast Guard Headquarters Office of Design and Engineering Standards, staff engineer at the Marine Safety Center and strategic analyst at the Office of Strategic Management.



He graduated the United States Coast Guard Academy with a Bachelor of Science degree in Naval Architecture/Marine Engineering. He was awarded Master's degrees in Mechanical Engineering and Naval Architecture/Marine Engineering from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI. He was selected for and completed a fellowship from 2010 to 2011 with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's Seminar XXI program on Foreign Politics, International Relations, and the National Interest. He is a licensed Professional Engineer in the state of Maryland. His article titled "Project Evergreen's Long Range Strategic Planning" was published in the United States Naval Institute periodical *Proceedings* in August 2014.

Captain Dufresne's personal awards include two Meritorious Service Medals, two Coast Guard Commendation Medals, two Coast Guard Achievement Medals and the Commandant's Letter of Commendation, along with numerous other unit and campaign awards.